

THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for setting up devices for communication, the method comprising:

in a communication network comprising a headend, wherein said headend enables access to said communication network for at least a first device,

assigning, by said headend, an address to said first device coupled to said communication network, wherein said address is first associated with said first device in said communication network at a time of said assigning;

transferring, by said headend, said assigned address to said first device; and

in response to said headend receiving an identifier of said first device from said first device, communicating, by said headend, one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device to at least one communication server coupled to said communication network.

2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising detecting, by said headend, when said first device is initially coupled to said communication network prior to said assigning of said address to said first device.

3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein:

said assigned address of said first device is one of a static address, a dynamic address, or an embedded device address; and

said identifier of said first device is one of a digital certificate and a serial number.

4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device is registered with said at least one communication server.

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising broadcasting said one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device throughout at least a portion of said communication network by said at least one communication server.

6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 5, comprising receiving said broadcasted one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device by a second device located in said at least a portion of said communication network.

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein said first device communicates with said second device utilizing said received broadcasted one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device.

8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein a second device desiring to communicate with said first device via said communication network requests said one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device from said communication server.

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein:
in response to said request, said second device receives said one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device from said communication server; and

said second device transfers media between said second device and said first device utilizing said received one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device.

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein said second device requests said one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device from said communication server based on a known location of said first device.

11. (Currently amended) A machine-readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having at least one code section for setting up devices for communication, the at least one code section being executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform steps comprising:

in a communication network comprising a headend, wherein said headend enables access to said communication network for at least a first device,

assigning, by said headend, an address to said first device coupled to said communication network, wherein said address is ~~first~~ associated with said first device in said communication network at a time of said assigning;

transferring, by said headend, said assigned address to said first device; and

in response to said headend receiving an identifier of said first device from said first device, communicating, by said headend, one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device to at least one communication server coupled to said communication network.

12. (Previously presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein said at least one code section comprises code for detecting,

by said headend, when said first device is initially coupled to said communication network prior to said assigning of said address to said first device.

13. (Previously presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 12, wherein:

said assigned address of said first device is one of a static address, a dynamic address, or an embedded device address;

said identifier of said first device is one of a digital certificate and a serial number.

14. (Previously presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein said one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device is registered with said at least one communication server.

15. (Previously presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein said at least one code section comprises code for broadcasting said one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device throughout at least a portion of said communication network by said at least one communication server.

16. (Previously presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 15, wherein said at least one code section comprises code for receiving said broadcasted one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device by a second device located in said at least a portion of said communication network.

17. (Previously presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 16, wherein said first device communicates with said second device

utilizing said received broadcasted one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device.

18. (Previously presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein a second device desiring to communicate with said first device via said communication network requests said one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device from said communication server.

19. (Previously presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 18, wherein:

in response to said request, said second device receives said one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device from said communication server; and

said second device transfers media between said second device and said first device utilizing said received one or both of said transferred assigned address and said identifier of said first device.

20. (Previously presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 18, wherein said second device requests said one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device from said communication server based on a known location of said first device.

21. (Currently amended) A system for setting up devices for communication, the system comprising:

one or more circuits for use in a headend communicatively coupled to a communication network, said one or more circuits operable to:

assign an address to a first device coupled to the communication network, wherein said address is first associated with said first device in said communication network at a time of said assigning;

transfer said assigned address to said first device; and

in response to receiving an identifier of said first device from said first device, communicate one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device to at least one communication server coupled to the said communication network.

22. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein said one or more circuits are operable to detect when said first device is initially coupled to said communication network prior to said assigning of said address to said first device.

23. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 22, wherein:
said assigned address of said first device is one of a static address, a dynamic address, or an embedded device address; and
said identifier of said first device is one of a digital certificate and a serial number.

24. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein said communication server registers said one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device.

25. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein said communication server broadcasts said one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device throughout at least a portion of said communication network.

26. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 25, wherein a second device located in said at least a portion of the communication network receives said broadcasted one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device.

27. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 26, wherein said second device communicates with said first device utilizing said received broadcasted one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device.

28. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein a second device requests said one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device from said communication server whenever said second device desires to communicate with said first device via said communication network.

29. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 28, wherein, in response to said request, said second device:

receives said at least one of said transferred assigned address and said identifier of said first device from said communication server; and

transfers media between said second device and said first device utilizing said received one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device.

30. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 28, wherein said second device requests said one or both of said transferred assigned address and/or said identifier of said first device from said communication server based on a known location of said first device.